

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action the claims were again rejected as being obvious in view of a hypothetical combination of the disclosures of the cited Seto and Loce patents. In response, independent Claims 1 and 6 have been amended to clarify the patentable distinctions of the present invention as compared to the prior art. In this regard, all of the claims are now believed to be patentably distinct over those references.

In particular, the present invention relates to anti-aliasing processing, and a principal feature of claimed invention is to expand image data at a resolution higher than an actual resolution performance capability of an image output device. By these means it is possible to prevent the density of an image from changing.

Referring now to the cited references, however, it is seen that the Seto and Loce patents merely disclose converting low-resolution data to high-resolution data within a performance capability of a printer engine. Therefore, there is no mention of the above-characterized feature of the claimed invention.

In addition, the cited references do not assume the anti-aliasing processing, so that, understandably, the claimed invention is not disclosed or suggested by those references.

For these reasons Applicants believe that the claims as now presented are allowable, wherefore the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3939.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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